

FLUE-CURED PRODUCTION UP 10 MILLION POUNDS

Based primarily upon reports received from tobacco growers on and around September 1, production from the 1954 flue-cured tobacco crop in North Carolina is currently forecast at 923,920,000 pounds—an increase of about 10 million pounds over expectations of a month earlier. This year's estimate is nearly 11 percent greater than the 832,305,000 pounds harvested in 1953 and 14 percent above the average annual production for the 10-year period from 1943 to 1952.

By the end of the first week in September harvesting operations were virtually complete in the Border Belt, nearing completion in the Eastern Belt with about nine-tenths of the crop barned, and were progressing rapidly in Type 11 area where about 80-85 percent of the leaf had been cured in the Middle Belt and 60-70 percent in the Old Belt. Close to a third of the Border Belt crop had been marketed by the end of August, with progressively smaller amounts having been sold in Type 12 and 11 areas.

(See "TOBACCO" Page 2)

COTTON PROSPECTS UNCHANGED

The September 1 cotton forecast puts the prospective production for the 1954 Tar Heel crop at 400,000 (500-pound gross weight) bales. This forecast is based upon reports from cotton growers and ginners throughout the cotton-producing sections of the State. The September 1 estimate reflects no change from the August 1 report, and compares with 449,000 bales ginned last season. The 10-year (1943-52) average production for the State is 506,000 bales.

(See "COTTON" Page 3)

CORN LOWEST SINCE 1944

Based on condition and yield reports from growers as of September 1, the 1954 Tar Heel corn crop is estimated at 54,-494,000 bushels. A crop of this size, if realized, would be the smallest since 1944 when 52,349,000 bushels were produced. The 1943-52 average production is 61,-914,000 bushels.

September 1 prospects point to an average yield per acre of 25.5 bushels. This is the same as the 1952 average yield and is lower than any other year since 1945 when the average yield per acre was 25 bushels.

Yield prospects vary rather widely between areas within the State. The extended drought has been particularly damaging to the crop in most Piedmont counties. In some of these counties more than half of the corn has been cut for silage or forage owing to the extremely low yield prospects for grain.

Harvesting of the crop for grain is getting underway on scattered farms in the coastal counties.

United States corn production is currently estimated at 2,972,641,000 bushels. This compares with the 1953 crop of 3,-176,615,000 bushels.

DRY WEATHER CONTINUES

The end of August found most areas of the State suffering in varying degrees from lack of soil moisture. The principal exceptions were the western mountain and the eastern counties along the coast. Although scattered rains fell over the State during each week of the month, these rains were in the nature of thunder showers and were not of sufficient magnitude to saturate and maintain moisture supplies

(See "DRY WEATHER" Page 21

SOYBEANS ABOVE 1953

Resulting from reports received from growers as of September 1, the State's 1954 soybean crop is estimated at 4,480,000 bushels. This is 17 percent above production of 3,814,000 bushels in 1953. September 1 prospects indicated an average yield per acre of 15.5 bushels. This compares with an average of 14.5 bushels last year and the 1943-52 average of 13.8 bushels.

The U. S. soybean crop is estimated at 324,713,000 bushels or 24 percent above the 1953 crop.

TOBACCO (Continued from Page 1)

In breaking down the total flue-cured crop by areas, Type 11 production is presently set at 325,850,000 pounds -- meaning an average yield of 1,225 pounds per acre. Last year, Type 11 production was only 261,870,000 pounds, largely as a result of the drought-influenced yield of 1,015 pounds per acre.

Type 12 production is expected to reach 475,950,000 pounds this season, yielding 1,425 pounds per acre. This would mean the second heaviest crop of record and the second highest yield per acre of record, both having been surpassed in 1951 when total production went to 511 million pounds and the yield per acre

stopped at 1,435 pounds. Likewise, production

Likewise, production from Type 13 areas -- currently estimated at 122,120,-000 pounds -- is expected to be second only to 1951 when 127 million pounds were harvested. If the present estimated Type 13 yield of 1,420 pounds per acre materializes, it will be the highest for any year. In 1953 production in this area reached 120,275,000 pounds -- the yield per acre, 1,415 pounds.

Burley tobacco in the State is now expected to produce 20,520,000 pounds this year, equal to and sharing recordhigh honors with the 1953 crop despite the 5 percent drop in acreage from last year. Thus, the yield of 1,900 pounds per acre in view for the 1954 crop is the highest ever recorded. Harvesting of the Burley crop was getting well underway by the end of the first week in September, at which time about a fourth of the crop had been cut.

For the United States, total flue-cured

production for the 1954 season was estimated at 1,362,603,000 pounds as of September 1. This indicates a crop about 7 percent larger than last year and nearly 14 percent larger than the 10-year average.

DRY WEATHER (Continued from Page 1)

in the already parched soils. Hurricane "Carol", which struck the coast on Monday, August 30, brought soaking rain in two tiers of counties along the southeast and three to four tiers in the northeast. Damage from wind does not appear to have been of severe consequence as far as crops are concerned.

Priming of Types 12 and 13 tobacco is nearing completion and Type 11 is well along. A very good crop is being produced and marketed, although Type 11 tobacco appears to have been adversely affected by continued drought during Au-

gust

The corn crop has been badly damaged and grain yields will be comparatively light. In much of the southern and western Piedmont the crop is being salvaged as silage. Prospects for hay and pastures continue to deteriorate as fall approaches without effective relief from drought. Even the cotton crop is being adversely affected by unfavorable conditions in the most severely affected drought counties.

Both soybeans and peanuts appear to be in generally good condition, but additional rains are needed to insure good

yields of beans and nuts.

SORGHUM GRAIN INCREASING

Tar Heel farmers are expected to harvest 86,000 acres of sorghum grain this year -- an increase of 46 percent over the 59,000 acres harvested last year. The September 1 estimate of production of 2,236,000 bushels represents an increase of 58 percent over last year's crop of 1,416,000 bushels.

WHEAT: The national wheat acreage al __lotment for the 1955 crop is expected to be 55 million, 7 million less than this year's allotment. Supplies of wheat for 1954-55 add up to a record 1,884 million bushels. This total would likely exceed use by around 100 million bushels, leaving about a billion bushels in the carryover next July 1.

COTTON (Continued from Page 1)

Production prospects declined rather sharply in some of the drought-stricken southern Piedmont counties. However. this decline was offset by improved prospects in other areas.

September 1 indications point to a State average yield of 336 pounds of lint per acre. Such a yield compares with 278 pounds harvested in 1953 and the 10-

year average of 340 pounds.

It is estimated that 571,000 acres will be harvested this year, compared with 775,000 acres harvested last year. For the 10-year period 1943-52 Tar Heel growers harvested an average of 708,500 acres.

Cotton is opening rapidly and picking and ginning operations got underway the last of August in southern producing counties. Dry conditions, along with high temperatures, caused rather heavy shedding during August. These conditions have also caused premature opening of cotton in the drought-stricken Piedmont counties.

For United States figures, by States, see table below.

GOOD PEANUT CROP

Based on reports from growers as of September 1, the 1954 peanut crop is estimated at 261,950,000 pounds. This is 3 percent below the 1953 crop of 270 --810,000 pounds.

Current prospects indicate a yield of 1,550 pounds per acre. If realized, this will be the second highest yield of record, being exceeded only by 1952 when the average yield was 1,590 pounds per

Recent rains have benefited the crop considerably and current yield prospects are much better than earlier expectations.

For the Nation, prospective production of peanuts declined 8 percent during August as hot, dry weather continued in the southeast and southwest areas. The production of peanuts for picking and threshing is now estimated at 1,168 million pounds, 26 percent below last year's 1,588 million and 41 percent below the average of 1,980 million pounds.

COTTON ESTIMATES SEPTEMBER 1, 1954 WITH COMPARISONS

	1954 Acres	Sep	tember ndition	1		nt Yiel rvested		500-lb.	roductio Gross W	n 2/ t. Bales
STATE	For Harvest	Aver- age 1943- 1952	1953	1954	Aver- age 1943- 1952	1953	1954 indi- cated Sept. 1	Aver- age 1943 1952	1953	1954 indi- cated Sept. 1
	(000)	P	ercent			Pound	s	The	ousand B	ales
N. C. S. C. Ga. Tenn. Ala.	571 858 1, 105 658 1, 214	75 71 70 74 71	70 72 71 72 70	77 59 62 64 59	340 312 252 357 286	278 281 262 354 285	336 269 222 347 257	506 693 705 544 907	449 690 752 702 963	400 480 510 475 650
Miss. Mo. Ark. La. Okla.	1,913 456 1,705 689 935	72 76 71 68 60	80 69 73 78 80	65 77 61 62 45	336 368 332 327 152	410 386 358 407 205	326 395 317 345 118	1, 664 343 1, 343 585 385	2, 129 449 1, 548 806 437	1, 300 375 1, 125 495 230
Texas N. Mex. Ariz. Calif. Others 3/	7,624 201 403 882 71	69 88 90 93	732938	69 94 95 96	182 498 555 624 288	233 497 743 632 242	212 561 869 767 287	3, 239 195 387 905 47	4, 317 327 1, 070 1, 768 58	3, 375 235 730 1, 410 42
U. S.	19, 285	* 72	76	69	272.1	324.2	295	12, 448	16, 465	11,832

// Preliminary. 2/ Production ginned and to be ginned. A 500-1b. bale contains about 480 net pounds of lint. 3/ Virginia, Florida, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky and Nevada.

NORTH CAROLINA

ESTIMATED ACREAGE, YIELD AND PRODUCTION OF CROPS, SEPTEMBER 1, 1954 WITH COMPARISONS

		ACREAGE	GE (IN THOUSANDS	SANDS)	YIII	YIELD (IN	UNITS)	PRODUCTION	(IN	THOUSANDS)
CROPS	UNIT	Average 1943-52	Harvested 1953	Indicated 1954	Average 1943-52	1953	Indicated 1954	Average 1943-52	1953	Indicated 1954
Corn, Allsorghums, All Usessorghum Grain	Bu. Bu.	2, 220 35 1/18	2, 137 77 59	2, 137 112 86	27.9	27.0	25.5	61,914	57, 699	54, 494
Wheat, Winter	Bu. Bu. Bu. Bu.	416 363 38 24	400 418 44 16	316 481 53 19	16.7 29.4 27.2 12.4	20.5 38.5 37.5 14.5	21.5 38.5 35.0 14.0	6,915 10,749 1,035	8,200 16,093 1,650	6,794 18,518 1,855
Tobacco: Type 11 Type 12 Type 13 All Flue-cured Type 31, Burley	Lbs. Lbs. Lbs. Lbs.	269.2 337.2 83.2 689.6	258.0 331.0 85.0 674.0	266.0 334.0 86.0 686.0	1, 104 1, 219 1, 190 1, 171 1, 540	1,015 1,360 1,415 1,235 1,800	1, 225 1, 425 1, 420 1, 347 1, 900	297, 774 411, 216 99, 429 808, 419 16, 824	261,870 450,160 120,275 832,305 20,520	325,850 475,950 122,120 923,920 20,520
Soybeans, Alone All Purposes Soybeans, For BeansPeanuts, Alone All Purposes.	Lbs. Bu. Lbs.	718 400 254 286 269	782 397 263 184	571 289 175 169	340 13.8 1,139	278 14.5 1,530	333 15.5 1,550	2/506 3,559 300,811	2/449 3,814 270,810	2/ 400 4, 480 261, 950
Irish Potatoes, All	Bu. Bu.	69	46	40	134	133	156	9,095	3/6,118 4,725	6,240
Hay: All	Tons Tons Tons	1,270 97 36 516	1, 164 98 70 488	1, 224 92 78 532	1.01	2.00	1.10 2.00 .90	1, 287 110 76 554 83	1,145 108 140 415 56	1,204 101 156 479 60
Peaches, All	Bu. Bu. Tons	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	, , , ,	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	1,649 1,172 158 3.5	1,180 873 134 2.5	1, 150 2, 220 125 2. 6
Pecans: All	Lbs. Lbs.	3 1 1	1 1 1	1 1 1	1 1 1	1 1	111	2,305 2,072 2,072	3, 780 605 3, 175	2,350 450 1,900

1/ Short-time average. 2/500 lb. gross weight bales. 3/ Includes 105,000 bushels commercial early potatoes not marketed. 4/ Excludes sweetclover and lespedeza hay. 5/ Estimates of the commercial crop refer to the total production of apples in the commercial apple areas of each state.

UNITED STATES

ESTIMATED ACREAGE,	YIELD	CD AND	PRODUCTION	OF	CROPS, S	SEPTEMBER	ABER 1,	1954 WI	TH COMPA	ARISONS
		ACRE	AGE (IN	THOUSANDS)	YIELD	(IN	UNITS)	PRODUCTI	ON (IN	THOUSANDS)
CROPS	UNIT	Average 1943-52	Harvested 1953	Indicated 1954	Average 1943-52	1953	Indicated 1954	Average 1943-52	1953	Indicated 1954
Corn, All	Bu. Bu.	85,820 13,681 7,254	80, 279 12, 397 6, 137	80, 164 18, 489 8, 938	35.7	39.6	37.1	3,057,464	3,176,615	2, 972, 641
Wheat, Winter. Wheat, All. Oats. Barley.	Bu. Bu. Bu.	46,716 66,025 39,526 10,960 1,867	46, 681 67, 608 39, 358 8, 534 1, 382	38,090 53,726 41,980 12,885 1,706	17.7 17.0 33.3 25.3 11.9	18.8 17.3 30.9 28.2 13.0	20.4 17.9 36.0 28.6	832,977 1,121,506 1,316,359 274,955 22,149	877,511 1,168,536 1,216,416 241,015 17,998	775,900 962,135 1,509,386 369,050 23,293
Tobacco: Flue-cured	Lbs. Lbs.	1,028.8 452.5 1,716.8	1,021.8 422.7 1,634.2	1,039.0 396.3 1,631.8	1, 164 1, 234 1, 183	1,245 1,348 1,259	1,311 1,422 1,326	1, 199, 981 558, 923 2, 033, 432	1, 272, 200 569, 868 2, 057, 221	1,362,603 563,560 2,164,459
Soybeans, Alone All Purposes. Soybeans, For Beans Peanuts, Alone All Purposes Peanuts, Picked & Threshed	Lbs. Bu. Lbs.	22, 428 13, 523 11, 559 3, 424 2, 762	25, 244 16, 085 14, 366 1,882 1,514	19, 285 18, 825 17, 329 1, 914 1, 513	272. 1 19. 9 742	324.2 18.3 1,031	295 18.7 772	1/ 12, 488 230, 649 1, 979, 865	1/ 16, 465 262, 341 1, 588, 415	1/ 11,832 324,713 1,167,970
Irish Potatoes, All	Bu. Bu.	2, 138.3	1,508.3	1,380.9	202.3	247.8	250. 2 84. 3	409,027	373, 711 33, 974	345, 515 29, 136
Hay: All. Alfalfa. Clover & Timothy 2/ Lespedeza. Pasture, Condition.	Tons Tons Tons %	74,629 16,196 22,208 6,521	73,918 20,269 20,761 4,653	75, 984 22, 716 19, 717 5, 174	1.37 2.21 1.41 1.05	1.42 2.19 1.44 .89	1.36 2.04 1.42 75	101,959 35,759 31,236 6,851	105, 300 44, 374 29, 851 4, 129 63	103, 687 46, 454 27, 997 3, 881
Peaches, All 3/ Apples, Commercial 3/ 4/ Pears, All	Bu. Bu. Bu. Tons	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	1 1 1 1	1111	1111	66,596 105,802 30,466 2,951	64, 473 92, 877 29, 081 2, 696	60,881 102,313 29,297 2,701
Pecans: All	Lbs. Lbs. Lbs.	1 1 1	1 1 1	1 1 7	1 1-1	1 1 1	1 1 1	133, 575 73, 098 60, 477	211,660 108,755 102,905	104, 378 55, 290 49, 088

1/500 lb. gross weight bales. 2/ Excludes sweetclover and lespedeza hay. 3/ Production includes some quantities unharvestel on account of economic conditions. 4/ Estimates of commercial crop refer to the total production of apples in the Commercial areas of each state.

RECORD APPLE CROP

Recent reports from commercial apple growers in North Carolina indicated that prospective production of apples increased slightly from August 1 to September 1 and, as a result, the largest crop of record—2,220,000 bushels—is being estimated. A crop this size would be about two and a half times the size of last year's crop and nearly twice the size of the 1943-52 average.

For the Nation, the commercial apple crop is forecast at 102,313,000 bushels - 792,000 above the estimate August 1. In 1953, 92,877,000 bushels were produced and the 10-year average is 105,-

802,000 bushels.

PECAN CROP LIGHT

Estimated production of pecans in North Carolina is currently set at 2,350,000 pounds — 38 percent less than last year's 3,780,000-pound crop but about 2 percent more than the 1943-52 average. Production in the State this year will run about 1,900,000 pounds improved varieties and about 450,000 pounds wild and seed-lings.

The U. S. pecan crop is forecast at 104,378,000 pounds, a decline of 20 percent from the August 1 forecast. This is only about one-half as large as the 1953 record crop and is 22 percent below

the 1943-52 average.

PEACH ESTIMATE UPPED

Based upon end-of-the-season information from Tar Heel peach growers, the combined production of the fruit from the commercial and farm crops was placed at 1,150,000 bushels, or about a fifth higher than the August 1 estimate. In volume, this year's crop is just slightly smaller than the 1,180,000 bushels harvested in 1953 but is almost a third smaller than the 1943-52 average.

FRUIT: Demand for deciduous fruits in the U. S. for both fresh use and processing is expected to continue good during late summer and early fall. Prices received by growers for most deciduous fruits in September and October probably will not differ greatly from the levels of a year earlier.

RECORD EGG PRODUCTION

Laying flocks in North Caroline laid an estimated 105 million eggs during August - the highest August production of record. Production during the month was 1 million less than that of July but 4 million more than August 1953.

Meanwhile, U. S. farm flocks laid 4,545 million eggs in August, a record high for the month -- 5 percent more than in August last year and 15 percent above

the 1943-52 average.

RECORD AUGUST MILK FLOW

Farm production of milk in the State during August was estimated at 165 million pounds. Production during the month showed a rather sharp seasonal drop from the 174-million pound flow of July but was still the highest production of record for any August. A further comparison showed that production during the month was 3 million pounds above the 162 million pounds milked during August a year ago.

Milk production on U. S. farms during August totaled 10.5 billion pounds, about 1 percent lower than in August 1953, but close to the August 10-year average.

MILK PRODUCTION REVIEW

Production of milk in the United States fluctuated relatively little from 1941 through most of 1952. Highest output in that period was the record of 119.8 billion pounds in 1945, and the lowest was 112.7 billion pounds in 1948. In mid-1952 the annual rate declined to about 110 billion pounds, the lowest annual rate of output since the early months of 1948. Since mid-1952, milk output has been surging upward, exceeding a year earlier in every month since August 1952 and in many months establishing new record highs. In 1953, as in 1952, the annual rate reached the low point during the summer. In each succeeding winter, however, output reached new highs.

DAIRY: Outlook for U. S. milk output for the rest of 1954 points to about the same production as a year earlier. Total for 1954 is expected to be around 125 billion pounds compared with 121.2 billion in 1953.

SMALL SWEETPOTATO CROP

Based upon recent reports from growers, sweetpotato production in North Carolina is currently estimated at 4,000,000 bushels -- a drop of 200,000 bushels from prospects of a month earlier. With lower yields per acre expected and a somewhat smaller total acreage, production from

this year's crop will probably run about 15 percent below the 1953 crop of 4,725,-000 bushels and about a third smaller than the 1943-52 average.

The U.S. sweetpotato crop is estimated at 29,136,000 bushels, 14 percent less than in 1953 and 42 percent below average.

WEATHER SUMMARY FOR AUGUST, 1954

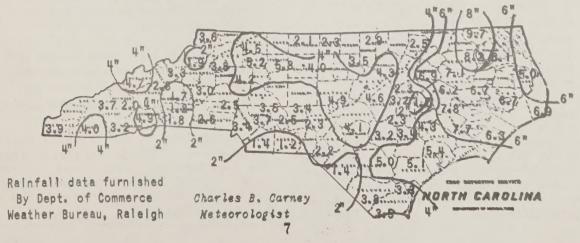
During most of August, weather over the eastern United States was dominated by two high pressure areas. The average position of the southern high pressure area was such that its main center lay offshore in the Atlantic Ocean, with secondary center over the Gulf of Mexico. The northern High was centered, on an average, over the Great Lakes. Between the two Highs was a front, which wavered most of the month over the Carolinas and Virginia. Occasionally the front disappeared, and the high pressure centers merged somewhere along the middle Atlantic coast. Such was the picture on August 25, when a tropical disturbance appeared in the area of the Bahamas. This storm developed into a hurricane and hovered well offshore until the 30th, when it moved rapidly northeastward near the North Carolina coast.

August was a warm month in North Carolina, with temperatures reaching 90 degrees or higher in some part of the State every day, and over the greater portion on most days. Practically all stations not under the influence of high altitude or sea breeze reached 100 at least once

during the month, and many places climbed that high on several days. Nights were relatively mild always dropping below 80 even following the hottest days, but seldom below 60 outside the mountains. Average temperatures over the month were near normal at a few northern localities, due to occasional inflow of cool air from the north; the rest of the State was from two to four degrees above normal.

Rainfall was scant over most of North Carolina during August, as it has been during the previous summer months. Many localities had less than two inches during the entire month, and the average over the western two-thirds of the State was less than half of normal. Dry weather also prevailed over the eastern counties most of the month, but hurricane "Carol", on the 30th, brought from two to five inches, boosting the month's total over the normal mark. In addition, heavy thunderstorms coming a day or two before the hurricane brought amounts of rain up to four inches to parts of the interior northeast. Totals in that section were the greatest in the State; in fact, it was the only section having more than normal for the month.

NORTH CAROLINA. INCHES OF RAINFALL, AUGUST, 1954



FARM REPORT

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SMALLER HAY CROP FORECAST

North Carolina hay crop prospects declined further during the month of August, dropping the September 1 expected total production to 1,204,000 tons. This is 10 thousand tons under the August estimate and 74 thousand tons less than prospects on July 1. Current prospects compare with 1,145,000 tons harvested during 1953 and the 10-year average production of 1,287,000 tons.

FARM EMPLOYMENT INCREASES

The number of people working on farms over the Nation during the week of August 22-28, totaled 9,666,000, an increase of about 5 percent over a month earlier but 2 percent lower than for the same period last year. Both family and hired workers showed increases over last month with the largest gain of 6 percent recorded by family workers.

Declines from a year ago were shown for both types of workers and reflect further adjustments to mechanization and to reduced labor requirements resulting from lower production this year of certain crops because of hot, dry weather.

Farm operators reported a slightly shorter average workday than a year ago. During the survey week they averaged 10.6 hours of work per day compared to 10.8 hours per day for the same week in 1953. Hired workers averaged 9.3 hours per day, the same as a year earlier.

LENGTH OF FARM WORK DAY

LOCATION AND TYPE LABOR	Sept. 1 1952	Sept. 1 1953	Sept. 1 1954
12	-	HOURS	-
NORTH CAROLINA: Operators Hired Workers	10.5 8.9	10.3	10.4
UNITED STATES: Operators Hired Workers	10.8 9.3	10.8	10.6